

TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Pat Miller, Chairman
Deborah Taylor Tate, Director
Sara Kyle, Director
Ron Jones, Director

460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

NOTICE OF FILING COMMENTS

DOCKET: 05-00014

IN RE: CapTel Services for the Hard-of-Hearing and the Late Deafened
Citizens of Tennessee

DATE: January 14, 2005

On May 20, 2004, Public Chapter 912 was signed into law expanding the Telecommunications Devices Access Program to include any disability that may impair a citizen's opportunity to use telephone service and authorizing the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA") to utilize the state-of-the-art technology to meet the telephone needs of the deaf community. CapTel is an enhanced relay service that is currently available or in use on a trial basis in 27 states. Currently, Tennessee offers only basic relay services, voice carrying over relay, hearing carrying over relay, and speech-to-speech relay.

At the Authority Conference held on January 10, 2005 it was proposed that the Authority consider CapTel service in Tennessee. The use of this enhanced relay service would require an increase in the assessments of certain telecommunication service providers to fund CapTel service. At the Conference the Directors opened a docket to receive comments from all interested parties. Comments by interested parties should be filed no later than **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2005** to give the Authority time to review these comments and consider them for their deliberations in this docket.

FOR THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY:

J. Richard Collier

Richard Collier, General Counsel

cc interested parties
Original in docket file